

PENDING CLAIMS AS AMENDED

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for forward link power control in a wireless communication system ~~during soft handoff, the method comprising:~~

detecting a quality of a signal received at a base station transceiver subsystem engaged in ~~[[a]] soft handoff of a communication~~ with a wireless device;

instructing the base station transceiver subsystem to improve the signal quality if the quality is below a predefined target signal quality;

instructing the wireless device to increase a pilot channel transmit power level; and

instructing the wireless device to decrease a power gain of other channels in relation to the pilot channel.

2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the power gain of other channels in relation to the pilot channel is decreased by an amount that is equal to an amount by which the pilot channel transmit power level is increased.

3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the power gain of other channels in relation to the pilot channel is decreased by an amount that is more than an amount by which the pilot channel transmit power level is increased.

4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the instructing the base station transceiver subsystem to improve the signal quality is performed in response to decreasing a required frame error rate for data received at the base station transceiver subsystem.

5. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for forward link power control in a wireless communication system, comprising:

a first processor ~~configured to~~ for detecting a quality of a signal received at a base station transceiver subsystem engaged in ~~[[a]] soft handoff of a communication~~ with a wireless device,

and to instruct the base station transceiver subsystem to improve the signal quality if the quality is below a predefined target signal quality; and

a second processor ~~coupled to the first processor and configured to~~ for instructing the wireless device to increase a pilot channel transmit power level, and to decrease a power gain of other channels in relation to the pilot channel.

6. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 5, wherein the first processor [[is]] further ~~configured to~~ instructs the base station transceiver subsystem to improve the signal quality by decreasing a required frame error rate for data received at the base station transceiver subsystem.

7. (Currently Amended) A base station transceiver subsystem ~~configured to~~ for engage engaging in [[a]] soft handoff ~~of a communication~~ with a wireless device, comprising:

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a processor; and

a storage medium coupled to the processor and ~~containing~~ including a set of instructions executable by the processor to detect a quality of a signal received at a base station transceiver subsystem engaged in [[a]] soft handoff ~~of a communication~~ with a wireless device, instruct the base station transceiver subsystem to improve the signal quality if the quality is below a predefined target signal quality, instruct the wireless device to increase a pilot channel transmit power level, and instruct the wireless device to decrease a power gain of other channels in relation to the pilot channel.

8. (Previously Presented) The base station transceiver subsystem of claim 7, wherein the set of instructions is further executable by the processor to instruct the base station transceiver subsystem to improve the signal quality by decreasing a required frame error rate for data received at the base station transceiver subsystem.

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Currently Amended) A method of power control in a wireless communication system, comprising:

detecting a quality of a signal received at a base station transceiver subsystem from a wireless device engaged in [[a]] soft handoff with the base station transceiver subsystem, the signal comprising a feedback channel and a second channel; and

increasing a power of the feedback channel without increasing the power of the second channel if the detected signal quality is less than a threshold.

12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11, wherein the feedback channel includes a power control bit.

13. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 12, wherein the feedback channel comprises a pilot channel having the power control bit.

14. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 13, wherein the second channel comprises a traffic channel.

15. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 13, wherein the power of the second channel is set by a gain applied to a power level equal to the power of the pilot channel, the gain being decreased with the increase in the power of the pilot channel.

16. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 15, wherein the gain is decreased by an amount equal to an amount by which the pilot channel power is increased.

17. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 15, wherein the gain is decreased by an amount that is more than an amount by which the pilot channel power is increased.

18. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11, wherein the power of the feedback channel is increased by decreasing a target frame error rate for the signal received at the base station transceiver subsystem.

19. (Currently Amended) A communications system, comprising:

a first processor ~~configured to~~ for detecting a quality of a signal received at a base station transceiver subsystem from a wireless device engaged in [[a]] soft handoff with the base station transceiver subsystem, the signal comprising a feedback channel and a second channel; and

a second processor [[configured to]] for instructing the wireless device to increase a power of the feedback channel without increasing the power of the second channel if the detected signal quality is less than a threshold.

20. (Previously Presented) The communications system of claim 19, wherein the feedback channel includes a power control bit.

21. (Previously Presented) The communications system of claim 20, wherein the feedback channel comprises a pilot channel having the power control bit.

22. (Previously Presented) The communications system of claim 21, wherein the second channel comprises a traffic channel.

23. (Previously Presented) The communications system of claim 21, wherein the second processor is further configured to decrease a gain with the increase in the power of the pilot channel, and transmit the gain to the wireless device to set the power of the second channel by applying the gain to a power level equal to the power of the pilot channel.

24. (Previously Presented) The communications system of claim 23, wherein the second processor is further configured to decrease the gain by an amount equal to an amount by which the pilot channel power is increased.

25. (Previously Presented) The communications system of claim 23, wherein the second processor is further configured to decrease the gain by an amount that is more than an amount by which the pilot channel power is increased.

26. (Previously Presented) The communications system of claim 19, wherein the second processor is further configured to increase the power of the feedback channel in response to a decrease in a target frame error rate by the first processor.

27. (Previously Presented) A method for forward link power control in a wireless communication system, comprising:

detecting a quality of a signal received at a base station engaged in soft handoff with a mobile station; and

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increasing a pilot channel transmit power level of the mobile station and decreasing a power gain of other channels in relation to the pilot channel of the mobile station providing that the quality of the received signal is below a predefined target signal quality.

28. (Previously Presented) An apparatus for forward link power control in a wireless communication system, comprising:

means for detecting a quality of a signal received at a base station engaged in soft handoff with a mobile station; and

means for increasing a pilot channel transmit power level of the mobile station and decreasing a power gain of other channels in relation to the pilot channel of the mobile station providing that the quality of the received signal is below a predefined target signal quality.

29. (New) A method, comprising:

detecting an unbalanced quality of a power control signal received at a plurality of base station transceivers from a wireless device;

increasing a target signal-to-noise ratio (SNR) for the plurality of base station transceivers;

increasing a pilot channel transmit power level of the wireless device; and

decreasing a power gain of other channels in relation to the pilot channel of the wireless device providing that the quality of the received power control signal is below a predefined target signal quality.